

B-2041

MAG #0420415811

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON: Shillcraft Building				
AND/OR HISTORIC: A. H. Shillman Co. Warehouse				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 500 North Calvert Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY:	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: A. & H. Shillman & Co.				
STREET AND NUMBER: 500 N. Calvert Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Records Office, Room 601, Baltimore City Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: Fayette and Calvert Streets				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): RHB 2895-658				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1975 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Commission for Hist. and Arch. Pres.				
STREET AND NUMBER: 26 S. Calvert Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore			STATE: Maryland	
			21202	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a four story building of masonry laid in common bond. It is divided into three sections: 1) left of the entrance-- consists of three bays; 2) entrance-- consists of two bays; 3) right of the entrance-- contains eleven bays. Both the first and third sections are identical in configuration.

The first story is marked by long, vertically beveled recesses divided into sections by steel posts rising from the lower (beveled) surface of the recess to the latter's top edge. Between the top edge of the beveled surface and the top edge of the recessed area are eleven horizontal louvres.

The second, third, and fourth story windows are uniform in appearance, i. e., a pair of plate glass windows in metal frames occupy the extreme right space of a horizontal, rectangular recess which is slightly over twice the width of the window group. The space between the extreme right edge of the recess and the left edge of the window frame is occupied by a beveled masonry indentation which deepens as it progresses from left to right. The unbroken belts of masonry between the rows of window recesses are evenly placed except for the belt between the first and second stories, which is wider than the rest.

The entrance is recessed from the facade surface. A masonry column, which becomes fused with the wall surface at the second story, is placed asymmetrically to the right, and rises to support a blank entablature above the fourth story windows. The entablature rises slightly higher than the roof line of the other two sections of the building.

The first story of the entrance is glass with steel frames. The double doorway is to the left of the column, and has a one piece transom. The doorway is flanked by two large, sheet glass windows, the window to the left being over twice as large as that to the right. The left window has two rectangular underlights, and the right window has one. To the right of the column is a window identical to the one left of the doorway. Above each window is a glass clerestory.

The second and third and fourth stories overhang the first, and all are arranged uniformly, i. e., paired plate glass windows with two rectangular underlights to the left of the column, and paired square plate glass windows, each with one underlight.

The south side has three bays (beginning at the second story) of recesses arranged like those of the facade, but these contain four-piece glass sliding doors instead. The first story is occupied by two garage entrances.

On the north side of the building there is a side entrance on the left of the first story. The doorway enters the building from a rectangular courtyard containing trees, planters, and benches. The side entrance consists of

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

c. 1972

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This block, bounded by Calvert Street and St. Paul Place on the east and west and Centre and Franklin Streets on the north and south, has undergone a considerable transformation in appearance because of the various demolitions and erections of residential and commercial structures over the years, and also because the block's dimensions have been sizably reduced.

An 1867 map of Baltimore shows the block in its original dimensional configuration. It was divided into three parts, two rectangles and an irregular quadrilateral shape. These parts were separated by Hargrove Alley and Hamilton Street in addition to the aforementioned streets. The block was then mainly residential, graced by stately townhouses which, in some instances dated back to the 1830s. But there were a number of commercial structures as well, such as J. W. Maxwell's Central Steam Marble Works, which occupied a factory and several former residences on Calvert near Franklin. Grant House, apparently a small hotel on the corner next to the Marble Works, was convenient for passengers arriving in Baltimore by train at Calvert Station, which was just across the street.

By 1896; the Grant House had become the Grand Central Hotel. The Nazarites Tabernacle occupied 532 N. Calvert, and a lard dealer had business premises at 520. There was a large livery stable at 105 E. Centre Street, and at the corner of Centre and St. Paul were the Monumental Assembly Rooms.

The configuration of the block had changed somewhat by 1904. A 1905 map of The Burnt District and environs indicates that Courtland Street, which on this block was only a court off of Hamilton Street, was now connected to Centre Street in the north.

By 1914 the block had begun to assume its present proportions. Courtland Street now ran through the rectangle bounded by St. Paul-Hargrove-Hamilton-Franklin, creating a triangular piece of land north of Hamilton (which caused the houses facing St. Paul there to be torn down; the triangle became a park), and an irregular, five-sided area south of Hamilton.

It was during the 1920s that the block took its first

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

379x110'

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Joseph Potts, Planning Assistant		
ORGANIZATION Commission for Hist. and Arch. Pres.		DATE 11/7/75
STREET AND NUMBER: 26 S. Calvert Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE Maryland	21202

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

(continued)

7. glass double doors with a one piece transom, flanked on the left by a large plate glass window with two underlights. The stone entablature appears above this window. Above the entablature appear a pair of square plate glass windows, each with two underlights. Beneath the underlights are metal panels; the entire group is within a metal frame. Both the entrance and the second story windows above it are placed at the extreme right of a beveled recess two stories high, which deepens as it progresses from left to right. The area to the right of the entrance is blank. The area to the right on the second story has a recess similar to those of the facade and the south side. These all contain windows like those of the facade and the south side of the building.

8. (continued)

large step towards the entirely commercial appearance which characterizes it today. The Standard Oil Building at 501 St. Paul Place was erected around 1927. By 1929, structures on lots from 502 to 514 Calvert were demolished to make way for larger, presumably commercial buildings. (The entire side of the block facing Calvert Street is now occupied by the new Shillcraft Building.) The irregularly shaped portion of the block separated by the southward extension of what was Courtland Street became incorporated with the triangular portion of land to the north to become a park. As a result, Hamilton Street was interrupted. By the 1940s, with the erection of the Chesapeake Life Building at the northwest corner, block 553 had lost virtually all of its original residential charm.

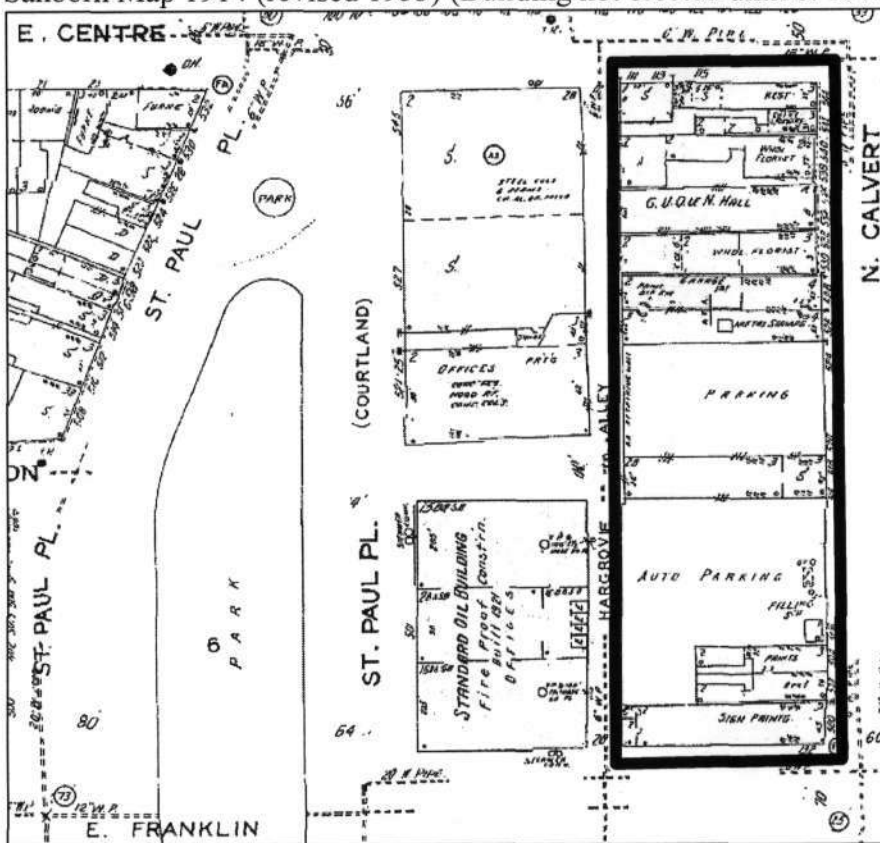
The esthetic significance of this block today is diluted by the diversity of styles in the massive, non-innovative commercial architecture to be found there; none of the original structures remain. Its significance is to be found rather in its location, i. e., as a sort of bulwark against the encroachments of road planners and land developers into the historically and architecturally rich area of Mt. Vernon. For this reason it is suggested that this block be included into the City's Historic District.

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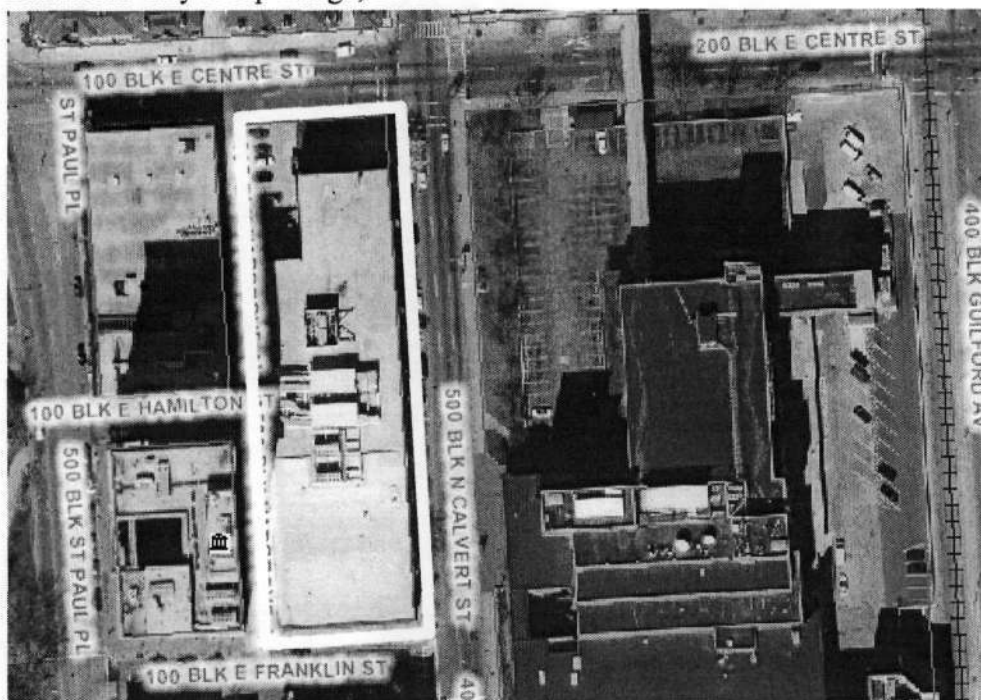
Shillcraft Building

500 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore

Sanborn Map 1914 (revised 1953) (Building not erected until c. 1972)



Baltimore City iMap image, 2006

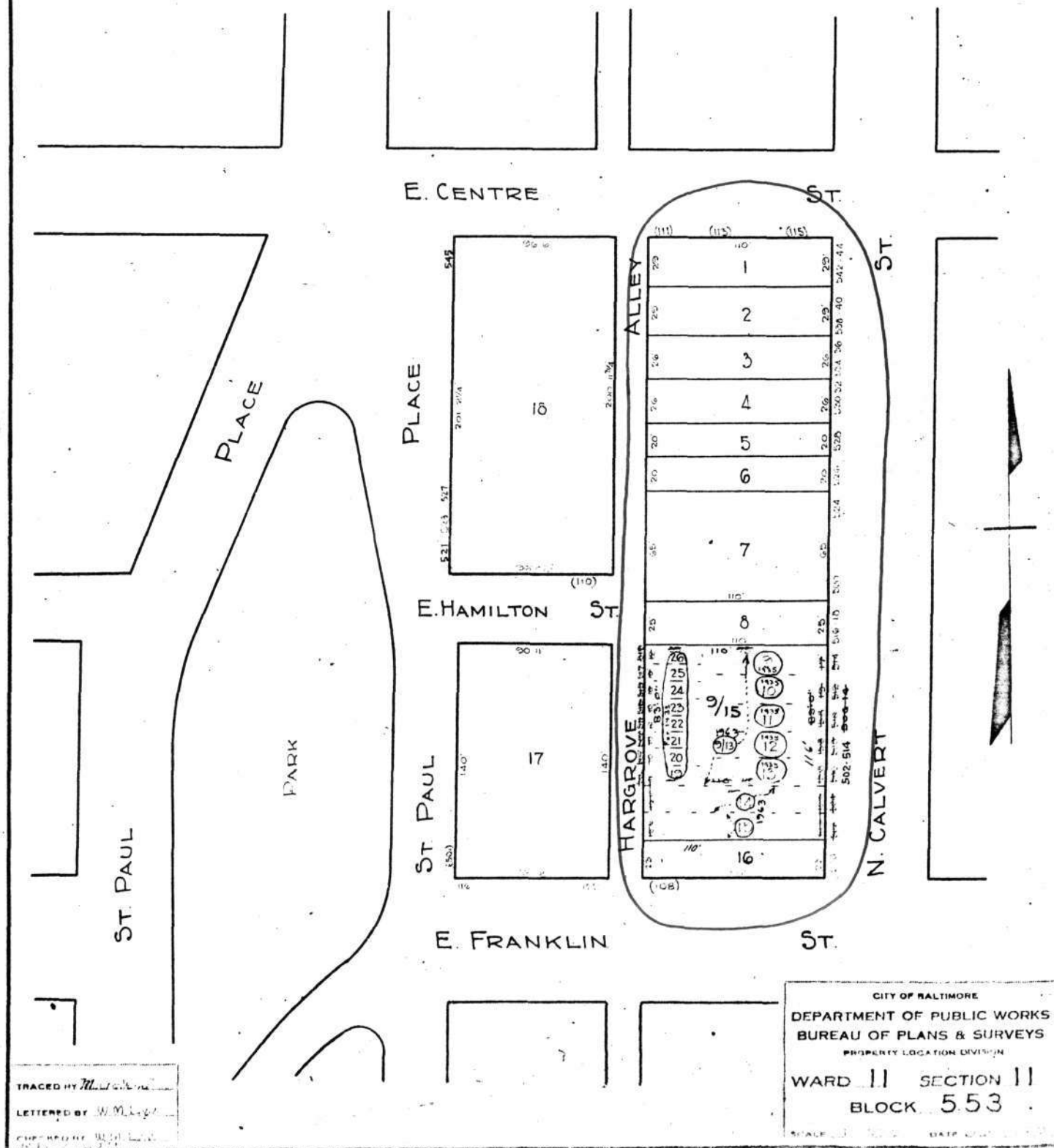


REVISIONS

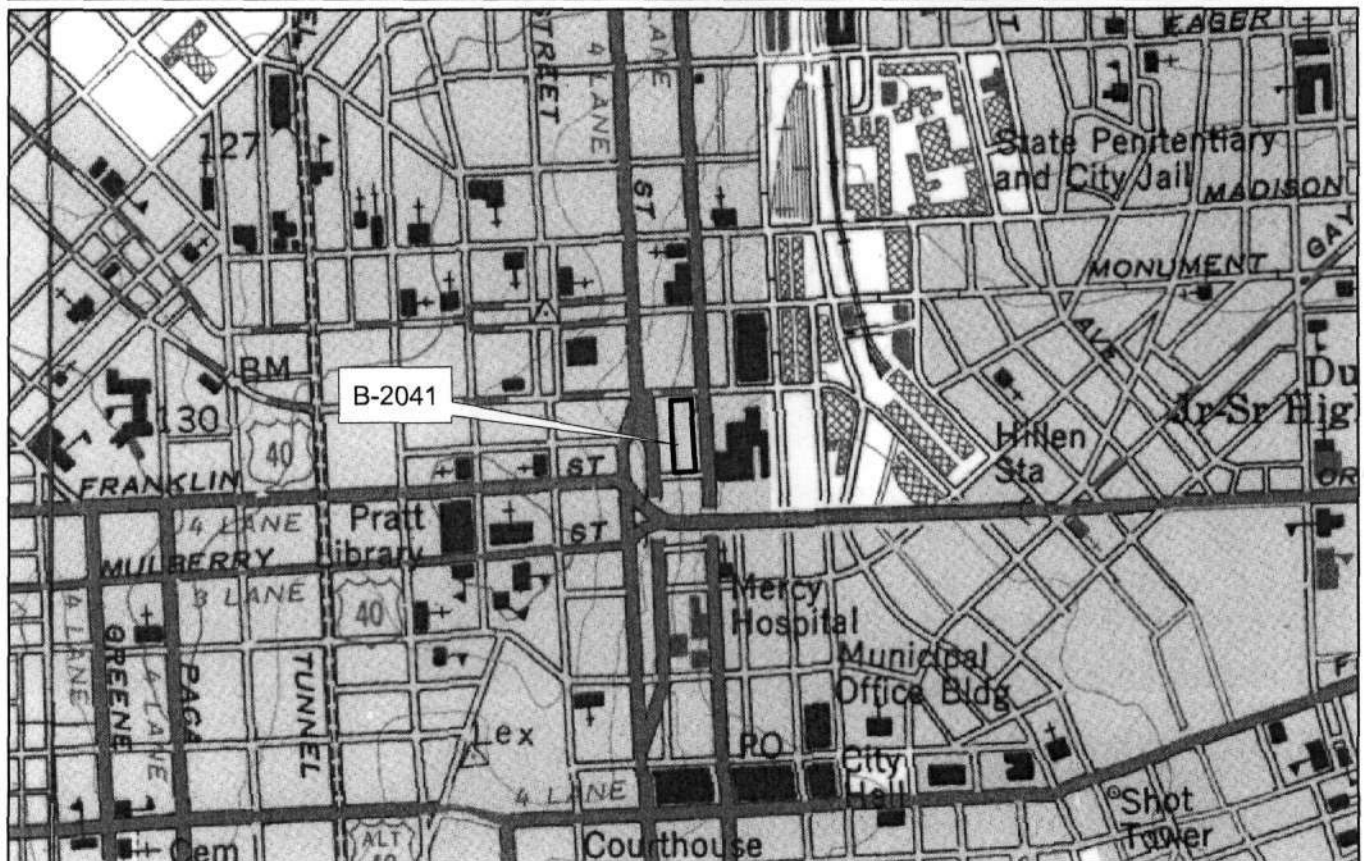
LOTS 9 to 13, 15 to 26 Cons. Field-Wildcat C. Sh. No. 1092
 LOTS 9/13, 14, 15, Cons'd Per App. C. Sh. 9126.

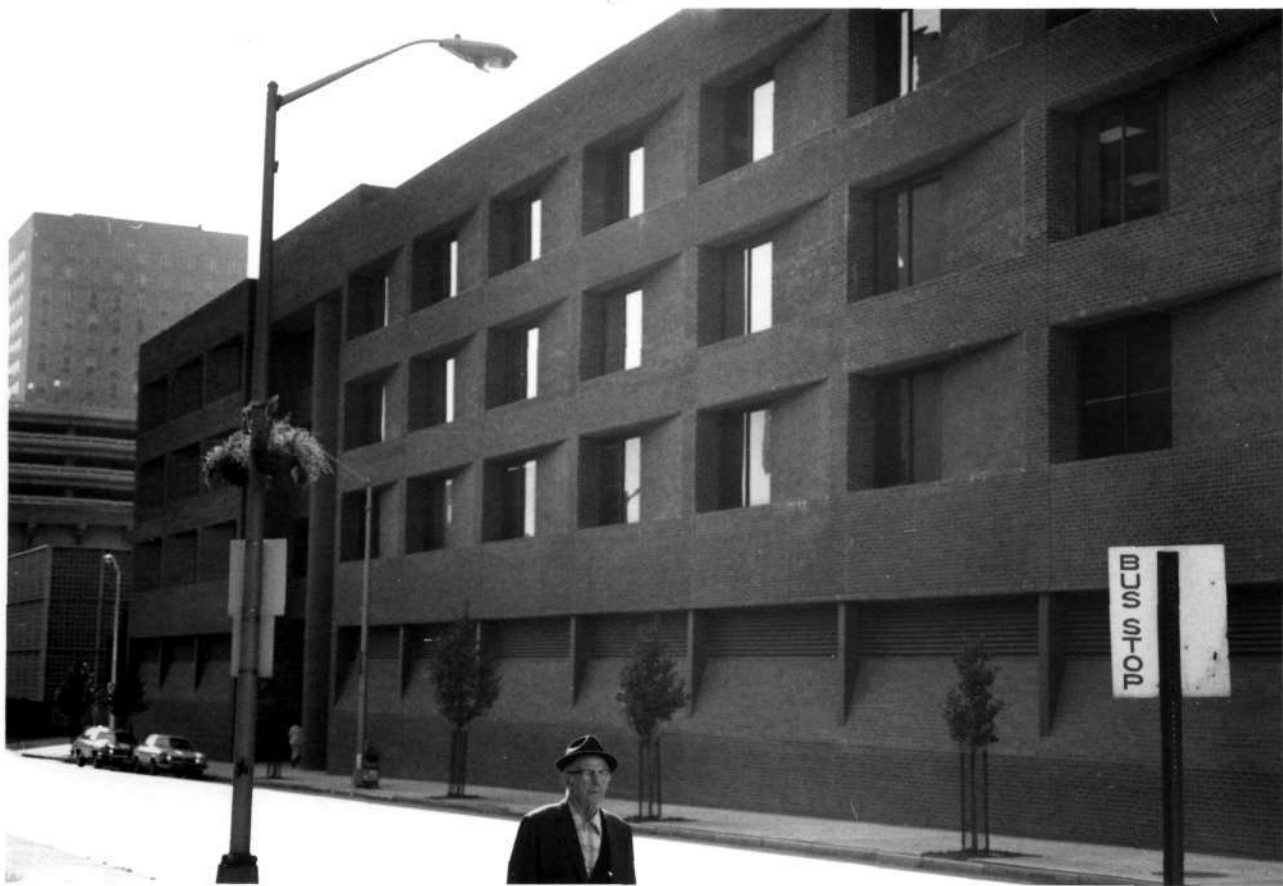
NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY MAP AS REQUIRED
 FOR UNDER ARTICLE 27, CHAPTER 10, § 1-101
 OF THE COMPILATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY MAPS
 ACTS AND IS NOT AN AUTHORITY.



B-2041
Shillcraft Building (A.&H. Shillman Company, Inc.)
500 N. Calvert Street
Block 0553 Lot 001
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad





580 N. CALVERT ST.

2041

BLOCK 553

NEG. 7

NOV. 1, 1975

M. L. LEFAIVRE